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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the below date:

Date: August 8, 2007 Name: Tadashi Horie (Reg. No. 40,437) Signature: Tadashi Horie

Our Case No. 9683-261

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Adachi et al.)	
Serial No. 10/680,205)	
Filing Date: Oct. 8, 2003)	Examiner: Patel, Jayesh A.
For: IMAGE ENCODING METHOD, IMAGE)	Group Art Unit No. 2624
DECODING METHOD, IMAGE)	Confirmation No. 7459
ENCODING APPARATUS, IMAGE)	
DECODING APPARATUS, IMAGE)	
ENCODING PROGRAM, AND IMAGE)	
DECODING PROGRAM)	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 8, 2007

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated February 8, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.